

SPEAKERS BUREAU: "VALUES BEYOND SCHOOL"

DRAFT: Abstracts with Brief Overview of What Speakers Hope To Present

Anthony Allen on NAACP and Race and Gender Topic

African-Americans and whites were the founders of the NAACP in 1909. The presentation addresses the history of the organization including contemporary social concerns related to economics, education, education, health, public safety and criminal justice, and voting rights.2) Anthony is well versed in working with high school and adult audiences and can address or lead discussions on a variety of race/gender topics. Please let us know the topics you wish to begin the dialogue between you and Anthony.

Dr. Rachel Daack (to be requested)

Karal Wildgerger and Dean Boles

African American have been honored on US commemorative dollars, half dollars and quarters. Additionally, the US Mint has made bronze replicas of Congressional Gold Medals that have honored African Americans and commemorated seminal Civil Rights events. I think these numismatic items can help everyone learn more about the persons and events, as well as the legislative history of commemorative coin programs and Congressional Gold medals. America celebrates highlights in its history through commemorative coins and metals. The presentation can build around a historical period or a review of the Black History in the context of overall United States history. The presentation can be used with students at various ages and adults. Working with the presenters, students may do the research on the history of the people commemorated.

Dr. Mary Gitau

Two presentations that would be appropriate for elementary, middle and high school students.

- 1) Dr. Martin Luther King Junior Legacy—examination of contemporary issues the lens of Dr. King's work on advocating for social justice. Students will have an opportunity to discuss, learn and reflect on how Dr. King has continued to inspire millions of people in the USA and around the world to advocate for social justice and give back to their communities.
- 2) Hidden figures is based on a true story of three female African American Mathematicians who served a vital role in NASA during the early years of the U.S. space program. They faced discrimination and institutional racism as they tried to build a career in a male-dominated workplace. Regardless of all that, they were some of the brains behind one the greatest operation in history—the launch of astronaut, John Glenn into the orbit and they were competent in their mathematical skills. Hidden Figures is a great reminder that there are so many unsung heroes and hidden figures among us.

Dr. Henry Grubb:

Lecture appropriate for high school students and/or adult audiences on the psychology and history of racism as well as the Maroons. The Maroons are the slaves who ran away from their

Spanish owned plantations when British took the Caribbean island of Jamaica in 1655. This history is important for young people as well as adults to understand the diversity of people of African origin and how they were dispatched to different parts of the world.

Tom Lo Guidice on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. In Iowa: A Message for Today

There are two possibilities for this presentation: 1) a 20-30 minute history about the October 1962 Iowa visit told from the perspectives of a family that greeted Dr. King upon his arrival, the President of Coe College, and the minister at Cornell College and excerpts from the lecture/sermon and 2) teaching how to use Google and the King Archives in Atlanta (available on line) so that students can tell the stories of Dr. King visits to Iowa in 1959 and 1962. The lecture of 1959 is a rather detailed Black history including the formation of the NAACP. The 1962 Coe/Cornell college sermon/lecture is more about prejudice/racism development and how American can be changed. Upper Elementary, Middle, and High School depending on the curriculum knowledge, skills and disposition emphasis.

R.R.S. Stewart

The history of civil rights in Iowa can be traced from 1838 to the present. The first cases of the Territory in 1839 including the Case of Ralph (Dubuque based) related to slavery. Other cases and laws have included issues related to exclusion, discrimination, voting, equal access to schools and transportation. Significant legislation has included the Iowa Civil Rights Act, Fair Employment, and the Commission on the Status of African-Americans and Hate Crimes Act. High school students and adults will probably best appreciate the presentation.

Issues in Immigration: Focuses on contemporary immigrants and related social issues. R.R.S is involved with new immigrant in Dubuque especially unaccompanied minors. She is appropriate for high school students and adult audiences.

Dr. Amy Ressler focuses story telling traditions of various African people. Her topics are appropriate for lower and upper elementary students.

John Stewart, PhD

High School and Adult audiences will appreciate Dr. Stewart's presentations. John will cover three different topics depending on the audience interests and need.

1) "White Privilege Without White Guilt."

I'm an old white guy who's had to work hard all my life. Parts of my life are anything but "privileged." AND I can do all the things Peggy McIntosh lists that exemplify white privilege. Those of us with this privilege need to learn a tough, two-part lesson: (1) We live in a Great Nation and (2) This Great Nation we love was founded on a faulty scientific belief, a political lie, and a brutal hierarchy. We shouldn't respond to these realities with guilt or shame but with response-ability, the

willingness and ability to respond. Response #1 is to acknowledge the reality of white privilege. Response #2 is to learn more about it. Response #3 is to look for ways to be an ally by using our privilege to support those who have less of it.

2) "African Americans and the GI Bill"

The GI Bill is called "the most important event of the 20th century" (Peter Drucker) and the bill that "changed America. It may have changed the world" (Sen. Bob Dole). Therefore, it's crucial to understand what this Bill was and what it did. The G.I. Bill was created by avowed segregationists and racists. Each of its four parts provided transformative benefits to white veterans while excluding African American veterans. The Bill's positive and negative effects are still present in U.S. culture.

3) "Hidden Highlights of African American History"

Most graduates of public schools in the U.S. are taught very little about the history of African Americans. We don't learn about how the dominance of the scientifically bogus notion of "race" and the accompanying notion of white supremacy, coupled with the doctrine of Manifest Destiny, justified both genocide against indigenous people and brutal repression of blacks. We don't learn about the inconsistencies in our founding documents, the creation of "white" as a racial category, how racism that was pervasive in legislation and religion from 1640 onward, the ways "ideas of white supremacy crossed and recrossed the Atlantic," the Stono Rebellion, Gabriel's Conspiracy, the Trail of Tears, Reconstruction, Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome, and other culture-defining events chronicled in books like *The New Jim Crow*, *The Color of Law*, and *We Ain't What We Ought To Be: The Black Freedom Struggle from Emancipation to Obama*. This talk shares several little-known stories to update listeners' historical awareness, so we can better understand current events.

Lynn Sutton:

Lynn is a discussion leader and her emphasis is on health food and needs of people in Dubuque. Her presentation is appropriate for middle school and high school students especially those taking classes in family and consumer education and social studies. She can also present to adult audience. Her other topic is for high school students in regards to understanding their legal rights and responsibility with regards to criminal justice concerns.